



The Old Stone Wall

E-Newsletter of the NH Division of Historical Resources

Fall 2010 - Vol 2, Issue 3

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NH Division of
Historical Resources

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Happy Thanksgiving!



Thank you to everyone who shared food for thought with the DHR during preparation of the five-year State Preservation Plan. New Hampshire's preservation community has a lot to celebrate! [Click here](#) to visit our State Plan site and enjoy a cornucopia of your success stories, questionnaire responses and personal comments, and minutes of the statewide listening sessions. We expect final National Park Service approval of the plan by the end of the year.

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[Click for DHR economic recovery
program information](#)

The DHR is a state service agency, supported by the State of New Hampshire, by the federal Historic Preservation Fund (through a matching grant administered by the National Park Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior), and by donated funds and services. In addition to its state functions, the DHR is also responsible for administering the federal preservation program in New Hampshire.



Click [here](#) for program information
about Moose Plate grants and
[here](#) for the DHR grants page

Historic Properties for Sale

Save These Dates

Download the DHR Brochure

Secretary of the Interior Salazar: "Historic preservation has played second fiddle too long."

[Elizabeth Hebron](#), *National Conference of State Historic
Preservation Officers*

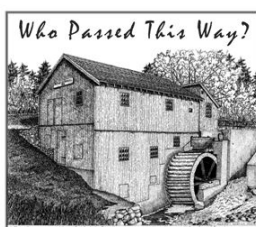
Secretary Salazar supports full funding for the Historic Preservation Fund.

At the September 16 meeting of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar spoke of the importance of the America's Great Outdoors initiative, and the role of historic preservation in the effort. He stated support for full funding of the Historic Preservation Fund as part of the initiative, going further by saying that \$150 million dollars was not enough.

This follows the July 29th policy statement released by the Obama Administration, giving strong support for "*funding for land and water conservation and historic preservation projects that prioritize the needs of the Nation based on competitive process.*" The full statement can be found by [clicking this link](#). For a press release about the event, [click here](#).

To read the text of Secretary Salazar's remarks and learn about the Coalition for Full Funding, [click here](#). The coalition includes national, statewide, tribal, and local organizations, agencies and businesses that support full and permanent funding for the Historic Preservation Fund.

Joining the Coalition for Full Funding does not constitute lobbying, and there is no cost to join. To add your group's name to the list of supporters, [click here](#) to send an email to the coalition.



Please Don't Erase Traces of
New Hampshire's Past

Archaeological and historic sites hold clues to America's past.
If disturbed, a part of our heritage may be lost forever.
Sites and artifacts on public lands are protected by RSA 227-C:6.
If you discover such remains, please leave them undisturbed.



New Hampshire Division of Cultural Resources
In cooperation with:
New Hampshire State Police
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
New Hampshire Department of Resources & Economic Development

Click [here](#) to read the poster

***"It is better to preserve
than to repair, better to
repair than to restore,
better to restore than to
reconstruct."***

Adolphe-Napoleon Didron
Bulletin Archeologique, 1839.

***"As components of the
human habitat, cultural
resources ARE natural
resources."***

David Crosson
*America's Great Outdoors online
forum*, June 2010.

Click [here](#) to go to the forum, read
comments, and share your ideas.

Let your mouse do the walking -- Plymouth State
University is offering an online historic preservation
course

[Shelly Angers](#), Communications Coordinator, NH Department
of Cultural Resources

**"The Rural Cultural
Environment: Architecture
and Landscape"** uses the
rural countryside as a
laboratory to examine the
cultural landscape, tracing the
impact of natural, cultural,
economic and technological
forces on the human
environment. Topics
addressed include the
evolution of architectural
styles and construction techniques, town planning and land
division, the evolution of transportation and the harnessing of
water power.



Photo by James L. Garvin, NH DHR

*The course is worth 3 graduate-level credits and is taught
entirely online from January 7 through February 17, 2011.
Two self-directed field trips are required. Benoni Amsden,
PhD, a research assistant professor who is dually appointed to
the Department of Social Science at PSU and PSU's the
Center for Rural Partnerships, teaches the course.*

At a time when many adults are returning to the classroom to
enhance their professional skills, the graduate-level Certificate
in Historic Preservation program seeks to instill a fundamental
understanding of preservation issues and challenges while
providing skills and training for those who work for community
preservation organizations and agencies, or in aligned fields
such as planning, law or architecture. Courses are also open
to non-degree students who wish to learn more about historic
preservation.

*To learn more about the Certificate in Historic Preservation
program, [click here](#) or contact Dr. Stacey Yap, Program
Coordinator, at 603-535-2333, or by [email](#). **Click [here](#) for
registration information.***

Please forward this information to your networks.

Welcome to Elaine Loft!



Elaine P. Loft is the new
Program Assistant for the
Division of Historical
Resources. She has
recently been working on
special projects at the
New Hampshire
Preservation Alliance and
the Land & Community
Heritage Investment
Program (LCHIP).

Previously, Elaine was
Director of the Hopkinton

Historical Society (formerly the NH Antiquarian Society), where she designed exhibits, edited the newsletter and led student tours. Under a grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, Elaine also worked as an archivist at the New Hampshire Historical Society, sorting and cataloguing the papers of Dorothy Vaughan, a leading Portsmouth preservation advocate, and one of the founders of Strawberry Banke Museum.

Elaine has a BA in English and art history from Hamilton College in Clinton, New York. She is looking forward to expanding her interests in history and preservation with her research, writing and organizational skills.

Only a Click Away

[Peter Michaud](#), *National Register, Preservation Tax Incentives, & Easements Coordinator*

In the past, the National Register program has been only a slight presence on the DHR website. With the internet becoming the tool to disseminate information and often as the first point of contact the public has with the Division of Historical Resources, updating our National Register presence on the web became a critical priority.

On Thursday, September 2nd, our new National Register website went live to the public. The site, found under the heading of programs on the DHR's main site, is broken down into seven pages: An introduction to the National Register program, properties listed in NH and how eligibility is determined, listing a property to the National Register in NH, benefits and restrictions of listing a property to the NR, helpful links and documents, newly listed NR properties, and a list of all NH NR properties sorted by town. Each page is filled with information, links in the text, and illustrated with images of National Register listed properties in NH. We encourage you to take a moment and check out our new **National Register web page**

Two Properties and Two Districts Listed in the National Register

[Peter Michaud](#), *National Register, Preservation Tax Incentives, & Covenants Coordinator, NH DHR*

The **Pulpit Rock Base End Station in Rye**, the **Newington Railroad Depot in Newington**, and the historic villages of **Enfield** and **Bennington** have been honored by the United States Secretary of the Interior with placement in the National Register of Historic Places.

Administered by the National Park Service, part of the U.S. Department of the Interior, the National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation and is part of a national program to coordinate



Nancy Dutton presenting Bennington's National Register certificate to Arnold Cernota (Photo by Peter Michaud, NH DHR)

and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate and protect our historic and archeological resources.



Pulpit Rock Base End Station is marked by an eight-story silo-like structure that rises sharply above the tree line over Route 1A and the rocky New Hampshire coast in Rye. Built in 1943, the tower was used to triangulate the guns at nearby Fort Dearborn (now Odiorne Point State Park). It is one of several coastal structures built to strengthen defenses around Portsmouth Harbor and the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard during World War II. The tower is occasionally opened to the public by the Friends of Pulpit Rock.

The Newington Depot is on Bloody Point in Newington, near the shores of Great Bay and the Piscataqua River. Built in 1873 to serve as a passenger station and toll house for the then newly-constructed Dover and Portsmouth Railroad, it is a well-preserved example of a now-rare depot type that was designed to serve as both a passenger station and a residence for the stationmaster. A bridge, built by the railroad to serve both trains and vehicular traffic--with the stationmaster also serving as bridge toll collector--was adjacent to the depot until 1934.

The Enfield Village Historic District is an excellent example of a well-preserved vernacular village center in New Hampshire's Connecticut River Valley and shows the evolution of the town's industrial center throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries. Settled in the last quarter of the 18th century, Enfield grew and prospered with the development of mills that took advantage of natural waterpower and the arrival of the railroad 1847. Enfield's development was influenced not only by local investors and entrepreneurs but also by the Shakers who lived in their own village across Mascoma Lake.

Originally situated on the edges of two separate towns in New Hampshire's Monadnock region, Bennington Village developed as a cohesive village center that was incorporated as a town in the 1840s. Once the home to several mills and factories that produced cotton textiles, cutlery and other products, the village boasts an active industrial center, and includes the Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc., considered to be the oldest continually operating paper mill in America.

These buildings, structures and village centers join a growing list of significant New Hampshire buildings, districts, sites,

structures and objects that are important in defining the state's history and character and that have been listed in the National Register for Historic Places.

For more information on the National Register program in New Hampshire contact Peter Michaud at 603-271-3483.

Twelve Properties added to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places

[Mary Kate Ryan](#), State Survey Coordinator, NH DHR

[Shelly Angers](#), Communications Coordinator, Department of Cultural Resources

The New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources is pleased to announce that the State Historic Resources Council has added eleven properties to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places.

The State Register honors the significance of many historic properties across New Hampshire. Publicly owned State Register-listed properties may be eligible for **Conservation License Plate** ("Moose Plate") funds or other grants for repair and restoration.



Chichester Grange Hall, Chichester. The Greek Revival-style Chichester Grange Hall was constructed in 1889 by a volunteer corporation of members of the Grange, which was founded in 1888. For 120 years the building has served the town as a gathering place and community center.

Kinsman Cemetery, Easton. Donated to the town in 1798 by Nathan Kinsman, one of the town's first citizens whose wife was already buried on the site, it is likely the first public cemetery in Easton.

District 5 School/East Grafton Town Hall, Grafton. Built in 1900 for \$756.33, this multi-use building served the community for 60 years with minimal changes; today it still functions as the Town Hall.

District 13 School, Grafton. The best preserved of 11 remaining schoolhouses in Grafton, it shows the impact of state school requirements as well as the wealth and growth of Grafton Village.

East Grafton Union Church, Grafton. A 1785 meeting house that was moved and renovated in the 19th century, it is an excellent example of shingle-style architecture.

Hampton Beach Fire Station, Hampton. Built in 1923, this still-active fire station is the only building associated with the Hampton Beach Precinct, which formed in 1907 to provide

municipal services to the beach-end community in Hampton.

Glidden-Towle-Edgerly House, Lee. Built circa 1749 (the current back ell) with a large, stately addition (now the main house) in 1828, this building's legacy includes ownership by three families who were all connected with the mill industries in Wadleigh Falls.

Stark Park, Manchester. Opened in 1893 and centered on the gravesite of Revolutionary War hero General John Stark, Stark Park was one of the first citywide public parks in Manchester. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2006.

Kona Farm (currently the Kona Mansion Inn), Moultonborough. Built in 1900-1902 by architect Harry J. Carlson for Boston businessman Herbert Dumaesq, the Kona Farm is an early example of the "New Hampshire Farms for Summer Homes" program, which promoted the sale of abandoned farmland for summer estates. The property includes an architecturally significant Tudor Revival-style main house.

Weare Free Library, Weare. Originally known as the Paige Memorial Library, this building is named after the library trustee who bequeathed the money for its construction in 1926.

Westmoreland Town Hall, Westmoreland. This building has served as the center of town gatherings, both civic and social, since its construction by local man Kirke Wheeler in 1916-17.

Jonathan Livermore House, Wilton. This architecturally significant Georgian house was built circa 1770 for the town's first minister, who was also given 240 acres, an annual salary and an allotment of firewood.

Anyone wishing to nominate a property to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places must research the history of the nominated property and document it fully on individual inventory forms from the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources. Having a property listed in the Register does not impose restrictions on property owners. [For more information on the State Register click here.](#)

DHR archaeologists travel all over New Hampshire to investigate and protect archaeological resources, but a recent project only involved walking downstairs to the DHR parking lot.



When construction of a dumpster pad and repair of a failing catch

basin began, the archaeologists monitored the work to be sure it did not impact any features or artifacts concealed below the lawn or pavement. The stratigraphy (soil layers) revealed distinct bands of natural soil, fill material, and an unexpected accumulation of cut bricks, along with a single artifact, a small amber glass bottle, with the legend "shake before each dose" around its shoulders.

The medicine bottle was made by Eli Lilly & Co., a pharmaceutical company that started in 1876 in Indiana. The bottle itself suggests a manufacture date between 1860 and 1880, so ours is most-likely from around 1880 and contained some sort of medicinal elixir. Eli Lilly & Co. was the first company to mass-produce penicillin and was the first to sugar-coat pills and add fruit flavoring to medicines so they would be easier to swallow. It also used to manufacture "tincture cannabis."



Medicine Bottle from DHR site

The presence of a medicine bottle was not surprising, because the DHR office at 19 Pillsbury Street was once part of the Margaret Pillsbury Hospital, a predecessor of Concord Hospital. Now the DHR headquarters is the only surviving building of the historic Pillsbury Street complex, which can still be seen as part of a photographic display in the main entrance lobby to the present Concord Hospital.

The bricks presented more of mystery, until State Archaeologist Richard Boisvert suggested that they were the unusable ends of the bricks that were cut to form headers for the exterior brick veneer of the hospital's structural clay tile walls.

Even a small project such as the DHR parking lot work can lead to unexpected insights about our heritage.

Have you visited the Project Archaeology Blog?
[Tanya Krajcik](#), Historical Archaeologist, Cultural Resources
Records Coordinator, & Project Archaeology, NH DHR



The NH Project Archaeology Blog has been developed so Project Archaeology Teacher Workshop participants (and others who want to learn more about the program) can carry on interactive conversations beyond the workshops. Project Archaeology participants are encouraged to post questions, ideas, success stories, suggestions for improving/expanding lessons, and any other comments related to the Project Archaeology workshops. To visit the blog, click [here](#).

Project Archaeology at the Boston Museum of Science Archaeology Fair

[Tanya E. Krajcik](#), Historical Archaeologist, Cultural Resources
Records Coordinator, & Project Archaeology, NH DHR



The Boston Museum of Science held its annual [Archaeology Fair](#) in October 2010. Visitors to the Project Archaeology booth made their own "rock art" by carving symbols that represent their own culture and "excavating" artifacts at the [Strawbery Banke Museum](#) booth presented by Sheila Charles.

Moose Plate Grant news

[Deborah J. Gagne](#), Grants Coordinator, NH DHR



The New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources operates several Conservation License Plate grant programs -- also called "[Moose Plate](#)" grants -- through its three divisions: the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources, the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts and the New Hampshire State Library. More information about each division's specific grant program is available -- click [here](#).

Certified Local Government grants

[Deborah J. Gagne](#), Grants Coordinator, NH DHR

The DHR will open its Certified Local Governments (CLG) annual grant round in early 2011. If you would like your community to become a CLG, please contact Nadine Peterson, Preservation Planner, at 603-271-6628 or by [email](#). If your community is already a CLG and would like to know more about the program, call 603-271-3559 or [click here](#) to visit the DHR grants web page.

1772 Foundation Grants for African American Historic Sites

The Northeast Office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation is partnering with the 1772 Foundation to provide up to \$350,000 in construction grant funding for historic sites in the Northeast region that have a primary association with African American history.

The funding opportunity is open to 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations located in the states from Maine to Delaware that are working to preserve an African American historic site or sites. Eligible applicants should submit a Letter of Inquiry through the 1772 Foundation's web site; [click here](#) to visit the site. Inquiries will be accepted through April 1, 2011. The inquiry should reference announcement AFAM2011. Selected organizations will be invited to submit a full application, due June 25, 2011. Grant awards will be announced in early July.

Please share this funding opportunity within your networks and encourage any eligible organizations to apply. For more information, contact Trevor Johnson at 617-523-0885, extension 44234, or by [email](#).



The Benedict House c.1908
(Courtesy Portsmouth Historical Society)



The Benedict House in 2007
Showing the Modern Porch Deck



The Benedict House in 2010
Showing the Restored Porch Deck

When the Portsmouth Historical Society subleased the Benedict House portion of the Discover Portsmouth Center (the former Portsmouth Public Library building), one of the first major projects needed beyond the cosmetics of carpets and painting was this portion of the building's porch. Victoria Hardy, Executive Director of the Star Island Corporation, recalled, "*When we moved into the Discover Portsmouth Center in January of 2009, we could not help but note the dilapidated state of the porch. As this was to become the main entrance to our office, we immediately set out to do more about the design of the porch, and the process that would be needed to secure approval for a renovation/restoration.*"

Work on the porch of the Discover Portsmouth Center would not only involve local review by the Historic District Commission but also consultation and approval from the NH Division of Historical Resources. The DHR holds a preservation easement that protects the character-defining features on the interior and exterior of the Benedict House and Academy portions of the building. The door surround, posts, and arched canopy of the porch are character-defining features of the Benedict House, but the deck was a modern replacement that, while functional, was not characteristic of the original design. Working under the easement, the Star Island Corporation could either replace the porch deck in kind or present a new design that would further complement and enhance the historic details of the porch.

When asked about the process in choosing and moving forward with a design for the porch, Victoria Harding replied, "In the research that was done by the Star Island staff at the Portsmouth Athenaeum, we discovered a black and white print of a Wallace Nutting photograph that had a great view of the porch and its deck design. As we could not find a visual evidence of an earlier, different design, this became the foundation photograph for the restoration. Subsequently, we engaged a Star Island volunteer designer, Bruce Parsons, who drew up the plans, based on the historic photograph, and a volunteer/carpenter, Mark Adams, who costed out the project. The next step was to submit the plan and drawings to the NH Division of Historical Resources, which approved the approach in November of 2010. We then presented the plan/drawings and the historic research findings to the Portsmouth Historic District Commission, which approved the plan/drawings in December of 2010. The next stop was to have the detailed plans reviewed by the Building Inspector, who asked for some minor modifications to the stair rail plan to meet current codes. After the plans were revised, they were then approved by the inspector in May...and we then began working on a time slot that our island carpenter could come in and do the work."

The work began with mostly donated labor; and the City of Portsmouth, which owns the building, generously paid for supplies and other labor costs. Contrary to the popular belief that commencing work on an historic building only opens up a "can of worms" the workers on the porch made a surprising and cost saving discovery. According to Victoria Harding, "The re-build

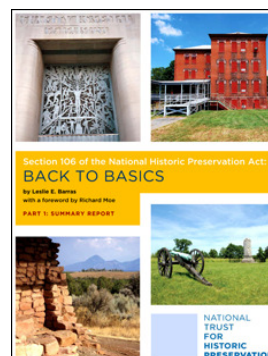
encountered the usual historic property issues: insect invasion, rotting underpinnings, and poor earlier repair work. But the great surprise was to discover that the granite block footings that were originally placed decades ago still existed and in the exact spot needed for the new deck! A true validation of the decision to go with the historic Nutting photograph!" The DHR is pleased to see the Benedict House rehabilitated as office space for the Star Island Corporation and to have public access renewed at this stylish Federal entrance.

[Click here for more information on the Discover Portsmouth Center.](#)
[To learn more about the Star Island Corporation click here.](#)

"Back to Basics"-- National Trust Releases New Report on Section 106

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has issued a major new report evaluating how the federal government is meeting its statutory obligations to consider the effects of its activities on America's historic and cultural resources.

In recent years, the National Trust has become increasingly concerned about whether federal agencies are fully complying with the consultation obligations of Section 106. The report, titled *Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act: Back to Basics*, urges federal agencies to take more seriously their obligations to consider the effects of their activities on the nation's heritage. The full report, along with a summary of its seven key recommendations, is available for download; [click here](#). The site also includes a wealth of information about federal, state, and local preservation law, Constitutional issues, and related links and resources.



For a user-friendly guide to the Section 106 historic preservation review process, [click here](#) to see or download *A Citizen's Guide to Section 106 Review*, prepared by the Advisory Council on Preservation. [Click here](#) to visit the DHR's "Review and Compliance" web pages.

Celebrating Cultural Landscape: A Challenge

The Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS) was created in 2000 to record our country's dynamic landscapes. Despite progress in identifying cultural landscapes, more is needed to document these designed and vernacular places. **The 2011 HALS Challenge focuses on historic landscapes that reflect ethnic heritage.** The diversity of American landscapes reflects the diversity of our people. Campuses, cemeteries, gardens, neighborhoods, parks, plazas, ranches, farms, villages, vistas and other outdoor places can convey unique cultural identity. Each state is challenged to complete at least one HALS *short format history* to increase awareness of the role of various cultural groups in shaping the American landscape.

Short format histories should be submitted to HALS at the National Park Service no later than July 31, 2011. For more information, contact Paul Dolinsky, Chief of HALS, 202-354-2116 by [email](#). HALS "Short Format History" guidelines, brochure and template may be downloaded from the HALS website; [click here](#).

Call for case studies on land conservation and historic preservation
from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Land Trust Alliance



Webster Farm, West Franklin, NH (DHR file photo)

A new **Preservation and Land Conservation** portal on **PreservationNation.org** is a resource to help advocates for historic preservation and land conservation work together to save places more comprehensively -- protecting all the historic, social, natural, and scenic elements that make a human landscape significant. The new site includes case studies from across the country, tips on how to make the case that the whole place matters, basic information on how land conservation works, and practical tools and approaches for all kinds of efforts.

Historic Properties for Sale: A New National Trust for Historic Preservation Web Site



Expanding upon the popular Historic Properties section in *Preservation* magazine and structured like an online classifieds site, **Historic Properties for Sale** features commercial and residential listings for buildings more than 50 years old or historically significant. Buyers, sellers, and browsers alike will find the new resource flexible and easy to use. Whether you are a buyer, seller, or browser, this is the place to look. **Click here** to visit the site and start browsing.

Save These Dates

For information about other historic preservation programs and activities on the horizon, visit the **NH Preservation Alliance "Events" web site**, the **Association of Historical Societies of New Hampshire E-sociate**, and the "history" section of **nh365.org**.

Download the DHR brochure

The colorful **DHR trifold brochure** is now online, free of charge, at the DHR's "About Us" web site. Download it for distribution -- or save paper and historic places by sharing the web link widely!

Staff members of the
New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources
have prepared this newsletter.

This newsletter has been financed in part with a federal 'Historic Preservation Fund' matching grant from the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior, to the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources/State Historic Preservation Office. Part of the cost of this newsletter has been paid by the DHR's annual federal program grant. However, its contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior. Regulations of the US Department of the Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmental federally assisted programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or disability. The State of New Hampshire (under RSA 275 and RSA 354-a) prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, sex, race, creed, color, marital status, physical or mental disability or national origin. Any person who believes that he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility operated by a recipient of federal assistance should write to: Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington D.C. 20240.